Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News UPDATE

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
JUN 1994
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

Montana State Library
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May 1994 Update No. 35

PERSONAL NOTES

Dorothy Still Smoking, a member of the Literacy Advisory Council, has been selected as the recipient of the National Head Start Association Administrator of the Year - Head Start Director Award. A check for $500 and commemorative plaque was presented to Dorothy during the 21st NHSA Annual Training Conference in Louisville on April 14.

Dale Johnson, University Archivist at the Mansfield Library received the Montana Alumni Award at Charter Day, 1994.

Richard Dunn, Collection Development Librarian of the University of Montana, will retire on June 30, 1994, after 20 years of service to the University of Montana. He will be returning on a post-retirement contract for the next three years.

The Chouteau County Free Library in Fort Benton will celebrate the recent renovation of that library at a May 18th 1994 open house. The renovation was made possible by an anonymous $200,000 donation.

Molly Pratt, Assistant Director of Bozeman Public Library and long-time staff member, retired on Friday, March 18, 1994, after thirty-three years of service.

Other changes at the Bozeman Public Library include: Lois Dissly has been named Head of Technical Services and Automation; Liza McClelland has been named Head of Reference and Adult Services; and Mary Jo Stanislao has been appointed Acting Head of Circulation.

POSITION OPEN: Youth Services Librarian to bring excitement and service to the library community. Prefer BA/BS, computer & library experience. Open until filled. Contact Delores Drennen, Library Director, Miles City Public Library, 1 South Tenth Street, Miles City, MT 59301 - 232-1496.

MONTANA NEWS:

THE BOZEMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY celebrated National Library Week with the "Reading is a Magic Trip" program available from the ALA and McDonald's. The program began the first of April, with a bookmark, reading log, sticker and McDonald coupons for all participants. The program is based on the popular Magic Schoolbus books by Joanna Cole. Whole families were encouraged to sign up to read books together during April.

The ALA teamed with author Joanna Cole and illustrator Bruce Degen, for its 1994 National Reading Program, "Reading is a Magic Trip." Featuring The Magic School Bus, the program offers materials and activities that encourage children to discover the magic in books and to read together. For a free catalog call ALA Graphics 800-545-2433, ext. 5046.

LIBRARY AUTOMATION WORKSHOP HELD IN SIDNEY: A library computer automation workshop was held at Central Elementary School on March 11, with 45 school and public librarians from Eastern Montana and the Sagebrush Library Federation attending. Terri Marguez, a library automation consultant from Spokane, Washington was the main presenter.

All of Sidney's school and public libraries are automated with Follett Circulation/Catalog Plus. Sidney librarians chose Follett because of price and ease of use for patrons. By all going with the same system it was less confusing for patrons going from library to library, and they ended up with a mini-support group. Dawn Greenwood, the organizer stated, "it has been wonderful to see how much more information students can find using the library work station computers themselves."

STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETINGS: On February 23rd, 1994, the State Library commission awarded the William K. Kohrs Memorial Library a $95,000 FY 94 LSCA Title II grant. The Balance of FY 94 Title II grant funds [$42,000] will be carried forward to FY 95. The Commission then approved $100,000 for Title II construction grants in FY 95, with the remainder to be rolled over for grant applications for construction and technology the following year.

The Commission also revised its policy for the expenditure of coal severance taxes by the federations. The new policy allows carryover of coal severance tax funds by the federations for 60 days into the next fiscal year if the final quarter's distribution comes on June 1st or later and if the request for carryover is submitted in writing to the State Library.

At its April 27, 1994 meeting during the MLA Conference in Butte, the Commission took the following actions:

- Accepted the report of the Federation Follow Up Committee and decided to implement all the recommendations of that report including the changing of the current federations into multi-type library organizations which include all types of libraries; and the hiring of three regional consultants each of which will work with two of the current federations on continuing education, technology, and other issues. [Note: These changes would take place next biennium beginning July 1, 1995 since statutory changes are required.] They charged the State Librarian with convening regional task force meetings to implement these changes and to receive input into the Vision Document.
- Reviewed the recommended priority listing of budget issues to be submitted to the Governor's budget office and made suggestions on the order of those issues. Charged the State Librarian with reprioritizing the list of budget issues in consultation with MLA's Government Affairs Committee.
- Approved the State Library's Affirmative Action Plan.
- Approved the State Library's third quarter financial report.

"RENEW GOVERNMENT" Task Force: The State Government Committee of the overall Task Force met in Great Falls on April 20, 1994. Richard Miller and Allan Cox attended the day's sessions. The committee decided to recommend to the full Task Force that the Natural Resource Information System [NRIS] should remain within the State Library, rather than being moved to one of three newly configured natural resource agencies, should that reconfiguration occur. There was no public discussion of the State Library as a whole during that meeting.

CERTIFICATION of Public Librarians: During the MLA Annual Conference there was much concern about the future of this program in Montana, especially at the Public Library Division meeting. State Librarian Richard Miller requested, during the final MLA Board meeting at the conference, that the Board choose two people to work with State Library staff to make recommendations on the future of this program. He pledged that the State Library will continue the certification program until such time as the Board and the State Library have had time to produce and consider these recommendations.

BIG SKY RADIO, a presentation of the Flathead County Library and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a call-in show that gives readers and radio listeners a chance to read great Montana Literature and talk about it over the air. The library provides books, study guides and supplemental reading lists. Radio hosts Lowell

Jaeger and Paul Zalis interview authors, scholars and critics and lead listeners through hour long discussions of such books as the Tough Trip Through Paradise, and A River runs Through It. The first program aired September 28 on Kalispell's KOFI. Early in 1994, the show moved to the University of Montana's public radio station, KUFM. Listeners are able to phone the show at 800-325-1565 or in Missoula 243-4931. Check for schedule times.

A TOURING EXHIBIT of the Mansfield collection is being offered to rural Montana communities by the University of Montana Mansfield Library, in cooperation with the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. The Mansfield Collection contains works in bronze, lacquerware, ceramics, weaving, calligraphy, paper arts, silk arts and paintings, many of which were produced in traditional art and craft centers throughout Japan. The only expense is for return shipping, and insurance if required. Contact: (406)243-2215.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION awarded over $8 million in grants under the Library Literacy Program, Title VI of the Library Services and Construction Act[LSCA]. The 236 grants to local public libraries and 12 to state libraries will support projects in 43 states. The program's aims are to reduce the rate of illiteracy among adults, help libraries be more actively involved in adult literacy, encourage cooperation among literacy providers, and promote volunteerism. Montana libraries that received grants are:

Big Horn County Public Library $33,495
Bitterroot Public Library $31,326
Butte-Silver Bow Public Library $29,277
Glendive Public Library $22,307
Lewistown City Library $34,861
Rocky Boy Community Library $34,547

NATIONAL NEWS

THE 1994 LIST OF OUTSTANDING REFERENCE SOURCES for small & medium-aized libraries has been announced by the Reference & Adult Services Division's References Sources Committee, a division of ALA. A list of recommended titles appears in the May issue of American Libraries.

ABC TELEVISION will be airing a public service announcement to increase public awareness of sexual harassment in the work place. The spot directa viewers to their public library for information, including a brochure intended for reference use. It was developed in cooperation with American Women in Radio and Television. Contact local chapters about sponsoring joint programs. Contact: ALA Public Information Office, 800-545-2433x5042.

A VIDEOGRAPHY for Your Libraries has been produced as a joint venture of the National Video Resources and the MacArthur Foundation Library Video Project. The first issue covers Native American history and issues. There are reduced prices on the videocassettes for public libraries through May 31, 1994. Contact: 800-847-3671.

NORTH DAKOTA CHOSEN for national conference. On September 16, and 17, 1994, Bismarck will host the fifth annual conference on the Future of Rural and Small Libraries. It will bring together participants from a variety of disciplines to discuss the emerging role of information providers and the technological advancements which drive these developments. Contact Mike Jaugstetter at the N.D. State Library [701-224-4654 or 800-472-2104#3].

A CONTINUING EDUCATION BROCHURE for 1994 lists ALA preconferences, institutes, workshops, conferences, grants, publications and other resources relating to continuing education. Contact: 800-545-2433x4277.

"TRAINING FOR ADA: Action for Libraries" will be offered as a preconference to the ALA Annual Conference in Miami Beach on June 23 and 24. Librarians will learn how to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA]. Participants will be qualified to train others in ADA compliance. The preconference is sponsored by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies [ASCLA]. Contact: ASCLA Office, 800-545-2433x4399

JUMPSTART: Free promotional materials are available to support your library in reaching out to parents and children during Library Card Sign-up Month in September. Underwritten by Prudential Insurance, the "JumpStart" campaign provides a free newsletter and other materials to encourage parents of 1st-3rd graders to give their children a "JumpStart" on learning by making sure they have a library card and use it. Prizes will be awarded to winning students, and to school and public libraries. Contact: ALA Public Information Office, 800-545-2433x5042.

CALENDAR

May 12 - "Achieving Breakthrough Service in Libraries," a teleconference. Contact: (800)545-2433 x5044/5041
13 - DOS workshop, Great Falls (1-5 pm)
14 - Windows workshop, Great Falls (8-12 am)
June 23, 24 - ADA Training Preconference in Miami. See article.
July 1 - Update Submissions Due
Oct. 27-30 - Joint Mountain Plains/Nevada Library Association Conference in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Contact Sharon Scott at 702-784-4578

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